

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides selected from the group consisting of

(a) [[a]] the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or 3;

(b) a nucleotide sequence at least 100 nucleotides in length which is a sequence which hybridizes to SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 under moderately stringent or high stringent conditions; (e) a complement of (a) [[or (b)]]; and

(c) a nucleotide sequence at least 100 nucleotides in length which is [[d)] a fragment or variant of (a)[[,]] or (b) [[or (c)]] having at least 95% identity to a portion the part of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 3 ~~the sequence of (a), (b), or (c)~~ upon which the fragment or variant is based; and having a size of at least 100 nucleotides;

wherein said molecule is capable of modifying pollen-specific expression.

2. (Currently amended) [[An]] The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 wherein said molecule is capable of modifying pollen-specific expression of an operably-linked second nucleic acid molecule.

3. (Currently amended) [[An]] The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2 from a ryegrass (*Lolium*) or Fescue (*Festuca*) species.

4. (Currently amended) [[An]] The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3 from perennial ryegrass (*L. perenne*).

5. (Withdrawn - currently amended) An isolated ~~nucleic~~ nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2 wherein said second nucleic acid molecule is capable of down-regulating expression of a pollen allergen.

6. (Withdrawn) An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 5 wherein said pollen allergen is Lol p 1 and/or Lol p 2.

7. (Currently amended) A vector ~~including a~~ comprising the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1.

8. (Currently amended) [[A]] The vector according to claim 7, further ~~including~~ comprising a second nucleic acid molecule and a terminator, said nucleic acid molecule, second nucleic acid molecule, and terminator being operably linked so as to result in expression of said second nucleic acid molecule.

9. (Withdrawn) A vector according to claim 8 wherein said second nucleic acid molecule is capable of modifying expression of a pollen allergen.

10. (Withdrawn) A vector according to claim 9 wherein said pollen allergen is *Lol p 1* and/or *Lol p 2*.

11. (Currently amended) A chimeric gene ~~including a~~ comprising the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 operably linked to a second nucleic acid molecule.

12. (Withdrawn) A chimeric gene according to claim 11 wherein said second nucleic acid molecule is capable of modifying expression of a pollen allergen.

13. (Withdrawn) A chimeric gene according to claim 12 wherein said pollen allergen is Lol p 1 and/or Lol p 2.

14. (Currently amended) A plant cell, plant, plant seed, or other plant part ~~including a~~ comprising the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1, ~~[[a]] the~~ vector according to claim 7, or ~~[[a]] the~~ chimeric gene according to claim 11.

15. (Withdrawn) A low allergy plant including a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1, a vector according to claim 7 or a chimeric gene according to claim 11.

16. (Withdrawn) A low allergy plant according to claim 15 which is a ryegrass or fescue.

17. (Currently amended) A method of modifying gene expression in pollen, said method ~~including~~ comprising

(a) introducing into a plant cell an effective amount of ~~[[a]] the~~ nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1, ~~[[a]] the~~ vector according to claim 7, or ~~[[a]] the~~ chimeric gene according to claim 11, and

(b) directing pollen-specific expression of an operably-linked second nucleic acid molecule.

18. (Withdrawn) A method of producing a plant with reduced male fertility compared with a wild-type plant, said method including introducing into the plant a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 in combination with a further nucleic acid molecule capable of modulating male fertility.

19. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 18 wherein said further nucleic acid molecule is capable of modifying pollen development.

20. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 19 wherein said further nucleic acid molecule encodes bacterial ribonuclease barnase.

21. (Withdrawn) A plant produced by a method according to claim 18.

22. (Withdrawn) A plant according to claim 21 wherein said plant is a male sterile plant.

23. (Currently amended) A preparation for transforming a plant ~~including a~~ comprising the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1.

24. (Previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule capable of modifying pollen-specific expression, comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of the sequences set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3.

25. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 comprising a sequence of nucleotides selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3;

(b) a nucleotide sequence at least 100 nucleotides in length which is a complement of (a); and

(c) a nucleotide sequence at least 100 nucleotides in length which is a fragment or variant of (a) or (b) having at least 95% identity to the part of SEQ ID NO: 3 upon which the fragment or variant is based.

26. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 comprising a sequence of nucleotides selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2;

(b) a nucleotide sequence at least 100 nucleotides in length which is a complement of (a); and

(c) a nucleotide sequence at least 100 nucleotides in length which is a fragment or variant of (a) or (b) having at least 95% identity to the part of SEQ ID NO: 2 upon which the fragment or variant is based.

27. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 24 comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3.

28. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 24 comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2.

29. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 which comprises a variant of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 3 with a single base substitution.